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July 20, 1977

Alfred Friendly, Jr.
Deputy Staff Director
CSCE Commission
3257 House Annex #2
Washington, D.C. 20007

Dear Al:

I appreciate the opportunity to review the draft Commission report on Helsinki Final Act compliance.

Perhaps the most striking aspect of the report is its thoroughness; the Commission staff is to be congratulated for devoting the time and effort needed to produce the quality and detail of the report's various chapters. You will see, from the absence of appreciable comments in the margins of the draft, that the chapters on Basket III find favor here; the "Information" chapter is especially notable, as is the "Human Contacts" section.

I have reserved extensive comments only for the report summary. Overall, I was pleased with its constructive approach and particularly the imaginative proposals on compliance, which merit serious study by the Department. I will work to that end.

I think, however, that pp. 1-4 could disclose the sort of measured tone incorporated in the rest of the summary. The marginal comments, plus the inserts, are my suggestions to bring this about. I realize that you and the staff must incorporate comments from all Commissioners and that your Solomonesque task is to meld all our observations into one document. I respect your decision-making in modifying these comments here with others you have received.

I want to use the summary statement as a basis for planning here in the Department; the earlier I might have a final version, the more time we'll have to try getting the Commission's ideas on the formal agenda.

Sincerely,

Patricia M. Derian
CSCE COMMISSIONER

attachment: as stated